

An Open Letter to the FCC Commissioners
October 11, 1995
page 2

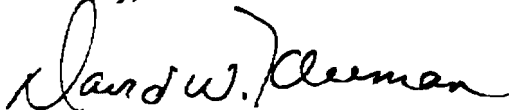
COMPETENCE -- The pace of change in media -- both technological potential and creative trends -- is unrelenting. Growth in knowledge about how children live and learn is no less swift. Ongoing and relevant professional development activities are needed, to refresh understanding and renew their commitment. What are young people's educational needs and their entertainment desires? What engages children...and what enrages them? How can television and new media converge, to yield great storytelling that actively involves the child?

CONNECTIONS -- Creative sparks don't survive in a vacuum, and children's television creators often work in isolation. Creative and critical exchange of expertise and information among television professionals, along with educators, researchers, child development and health experts, always yields dynamic new ideas and approaches.

Debate over the Children's Television Act has been polarized and pugnacious. But, ultimately, your decisions about how to advance the purposes of this law can only be a preface -- albeit a fundamental one -- to the work needed to obtain the cash, clout, commitment, competence and connections needed to extract from television its best work for young people.

The continuing challenge will be to establish and sustain a thoughtful, constructive, practical, candid and imaginative environment, where everyone with a stake in children's television -- the President, Congress, the FCC, media companies, advertisers, foundations, parents and advocates -- recognizes that excellence can't be legislated, it must be defined, nurtured and rewarded.

Sincerely,



David W. Kleeman
Executive Director
American Center for Children's Television
1400 East Touhy, Suite 260
Des Plaines, IL 60018-3305
708-390-6499 (phone) / 708-390-9435 (fax) / dkleeman@linknet.com (e-mail)

From: paul Schomburg <pschom@nmaa.org>
To: Commissioner Rachelle Chong <rchong@fcc.gov>
Date: 10/10/95 5:42pm
Subject: Childrens's Television

OCT 24 1995

Commissioner Rachelle Chong: rchong@fcc.gov
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20554

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Dear Commissioner Chong:

As the parents of two girls, age 3 and 5, we are writing to ask you to please vote for new rules to require television stations to provide a specific amount of educational programming for children each week. We believe a minimum of 3-5 hours per day should be required. Additionally, we are especially concerned with the amount of graphic violence in animated and live features targeted at children. Programs such as "Power Rangers" and "X-Men" portray violence as a solution to individual problems - certainly not the emphasis our society needs.

In its notice of proposed rule making, the commission proposed 6 basic principles. We would like to address our comments to these issues:

(1) "The program is specifically designed to meet the educational and informational needs of children ages 16 and under (i.e., has education as a significant purpose)." We agree that the programs should be entertaining as well as educational, but we feel that broadcasters will not develop truly educational programming without a clear definition of educational objectives. We believe that an independent board made up of parents and educators should establish voluntary educational objectives as a guidelines for broadcasters. These guidelines should also contain definitions of what educational programming is not -- promotion of violence, disorderly conduct, and abusive language eliminate the educational value of programming.

(2) "The educational objective of the program and the target child audience are specified in writing in the children's programming report." We agree, but believe the programming report should be required to identify how the programming meets the defined objectives developed by an independent board as described above, as well as other criteria. Such reports should be made available to the public on request or through information networks such as internet email or web sites.

(3) "The programming is aired between the hours of 6:00 a.m. and 11:00 p.m."

We beleive this time period is too broad. We propose that educational programming should be focused on those times when parents are generally unavailable to supervise viewing behavior, and when children are not in school. The time period of 3:00 PM

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to 7:00 PM is a time of critical need for "latch key" children. Also, the time period of Saturday and Sunday mornings from 7:00 am to 11:00 am are prime viewing times for children. We believe that all broadcasters should be required to provide at least one hour of educational programming during these time periods. Such a requirement would foster competition and promote quality in these critical time slots.

(4) "The program is regularly scheduled." We believe that to be of value to children, they must know and expect regular availability of educational programming. Thus, regular schedules should be maintained for at least 70% or greater of a broadcaster's commitment to educational programming.

(5) "The program is of a substantial length (e.g., 15 or 30 minutes)." We agree that to be of value, programs should be at least one half-hour in length. Shorter educational segments embedded in a non-educational program can be of value, but should not be used to fulfill the commitment to programs each broadcaster is obligated to provide.

(6) "The program is identified as educational children's programming at the time it is aired, and instructions for listing it as educational programming are provided by the licensee to program guides." Providing information to parents is essential and should be done through multiple means - program guides are just one. Why can't broadcasters provide this information via information networks such as the internet? The Congress is currently considering "V-Chip" legislation that would require broadcasters to code programming as violent or objectionable content. Why not require broadcasters to code programming as educational?

Broadcasters have at their disposal an invaluable resource for children.

Yet without stricter regulation and leadership from the FCC, this positive potential for kids will remain unfulfilled. We hope you will support a revision of rules for educational television that will encourage broadcasters to develop truly excellent programming during times when children are most likely to be watching without supervision. We believe that the only incentive that broadcasters will respond to is competition. We hope that the FCC will promote competition in children's television by focusing it during those times when children need it the most.

Sincerely,

Paul Schomburg & Janet Kotowski
12213 Bradbury Drive
Gaithersburg, MD 20878

cc: Commissioner Susan Ness: sness@fcc.gov

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September 29, 1995

Commissioner Rachelle Chong
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20554

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Sincerely,

(signature)

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NEW YORK CITY

I believe you will find this letter helpful. I am a parent of two children and I am very concerned about the quality of educational television.

12:35 - Carolyn

12:40 - A.G. - Rev. Anthony was called by his
~~the~~ Bishop of ~~this~~ ~~Par~~

12:45 - Loretta

to a special
mission
conduct

1:15 - A.G. Closing

1:30 - END

Videos will be available
at Conference Regis. desk

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September 29, 1995

Commissioner Rachele Chong
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20554

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OCT 24

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Sincerely,

Cheryl Ward
(signature)

PLEASE PRINT:

Cheryl Ward
Name

Community Affairs, Treasurer - Little the
Title

P.O. Box 4070
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Solana, Calif 93912
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94612-2444

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NEW YORK CITY

Looking for a producer company in Solana, Calif. I also work on Violence Injury Prevention Coalition. Also my husband

Was murder 4 years ago in a ~~robbery~~ robbery in my
home. Murdered by 3 young people 18-19-20 years old.
My daughter was raped with a shot gun. Please know
we must work together to solve the problem. I
trust we can work together we will all be
better off. Lives are at stake

Theresa Ward

From: Unprivileged user <nobody@watson.policy.net>
To: FCCMAIL.SMTP("efcc@watson.policy.net")
Date: 9/19/95 1:26pm

OCT 24 1995

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This message was sent through an Internet WWW gateway
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Ex Parte

The Honorable Reed Hundt
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20554

RE: PR Docket No. 93-61

Dear Chairman Hundt:

I am writing to urge the Commission to reconsider and revise regulations it has adopted for Location and Monitoring Services (LMS) systems to ensure that widespread access to Part 15 services remain reliable and affordable.

In adopting the new regulations, the Commission has attempted to, in effect, fit a round peg -- LMS -- into a square hole -- shared spectrum in the 902 - 928 MHz band. Some of the LMS systems use a fragile technology that is not a good spectrum sharer. Some are sensitive to interference from, others can cause interference to Part 15 services. By allowing LMS in the 902 - 928 MHz band, the Commission is jeopardizing some of the Part 15 services using outdoor antennas above 5 meters serving such areas as health care, education, energy conservation, disability and public safety. Part 15 wide area networks can provide affordable, high-speed access to the Internet through wireless modems. Part 15 services can also help achieve the Clinton Administration's goal of connecting every classroom and library to the NII by the year 2000 without expensive rewiring.

Petitions for Reconsideration filed by the Part 15 Coalition, Metricom, Inc., the Connectivity for Learning Coalition and many others detail many significant problems with the new regulations which can impair or eliminate many services. These problems include height restrictions, wideband forward links, interconnection with the local telephone network, and others. These problems must be corrected.

The Part 15 industry has grown as a direct result of the Commission's decision to encourage unlicensed low-power services in the 902 - 928 MHz band. Now, just as we are beginning to realize the full benefits of Part 15 services, the Commission has adopted new regulations that may threaten their reliability and affordability in broad cases. I

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urge the Commission to carefully reconsider the regulations it has adopted and change them to ensure that the full potential promise of Part 15 services is fulfilled.

Sincerely,

Yoshi Noro
yoshi@hudsonet.com
409 Washington St.
Suit 158, Hoboken
NJ
07030

cc: Commissioner James Quello
Commissioner Andrew Barrett
Commissioner Susan Ness
Commissioner Rachelle Chong

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September 29, 1995

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 Federal Communications Commission
 1919 M Street, NW
 Washington, D.C. 20554

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Sincerely,

Lee Dean
 (signature)

PLEASE PRINT:

Lee Dean
 Name

Chief of Police
 Title

630 Merchant St.
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Wacaville, Ca. 95688
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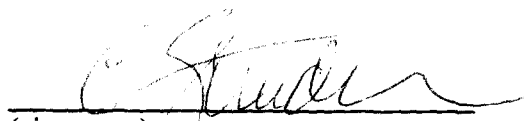
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Sincerely,


(signature)

PLEASE PRINT:

Christine Strader
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Legislative Analyst
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Sincerely,

Robin Barnett
(signature)

PLEASE PRINT:

Robin Barnett, J.D.
Name

Crime Prevention Specialist
Title

2921 Rawson St.
Address

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Sincerely, I DEAL WITH YOUTH VIOLENCE ON
A DAILY BASIS PLEASE HELP ME START
TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE.

Trevor W. Womack
(signature)

PLEASE PRINT:

TREVOR W. WOMACK
Name

POLICE OFFICER
Title

804 FLINT STOCKTON, CA. 95206
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September 29, 1995

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Commissioner Rachelle Chong
Federal Communications Commission
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Sincerely,


(signature)

NICKY EZELL
244 RIO MESA WAY
GALT CA 95632
POLICE OFFICER AND
FATHER OF TWO!

OUR KIDS NEED YOUR
SUPPORT

PLEASE PRINT:

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Sincerely,

Barbara E. Conlee
(signature)

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BARBARA E. CONLEE
Name

DIRECTOR, NAVY FAMILY SERVICE CENTER
Title

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Sincerely,

Vicky Elder
(signature)

PLEASE PRINT:

VICKY ELDER
Name

PROGRAM MANAGER
Title

Calif Attorney General's Crime & Violence
Prevention Ctr

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Sincerely,

Benzamen D. Sher
(signature)

PLEASE PRINT:

BENJAMEN D. SHER
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CAMINO, CA 95709
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YES, we need a true standard for children's educational programs.
Please support strong guidelines. Benzamen D. Sher

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Sincerely,

Please pass this guideline. I encourage you to consult with child development educators, & others in the field. Let them know you're serious.

Anita DeFrantz
(signature)

*Thanks,
Anita DeFrantz*

PLEASE PRINT:

Alma Nunez-Luna
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Public Health Educator
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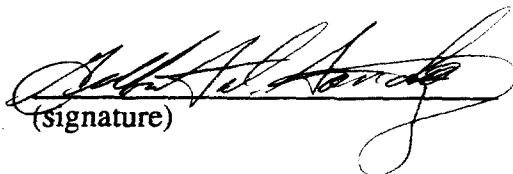
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Sincerely,


(signature)

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Gilbert D. Sanchez
Name

Director, Gang Violence
Title Bridging Project
5151 State University Dr.
Address

L.A. CA 90032
Address

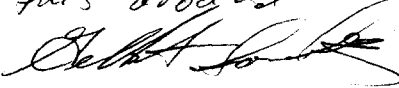
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September 29, 1995



James P. Steyer
 President
 Lois Salisbury
 Executive Director

Commissioner Rachelle Chong
 Federal Communications Commission
 1919 M Street, NW
 Washington, D.C. 20554

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

Dear Commissioner Chong:

As a California community leader, I am writing to congratulate you on the FCC's latest work toward improving children's access to quality, educational television. I am pleased about the issuance of the notice of proposed rule-making (NPRM) and applaud your efforts to fully enforce the intent of the Children's Television Act (CTA).

New guidelines are desperately needed in order to increase educational TV for children. I am concerned that in the absence of further specific guidelines, broadcasters will continue to fill the airwaves with mediocrity, ignoring their vast potential to educate and inform children. With this in mind, I hope you will vote to more clearly define what is meant by "educational" programming, and to require broadcasters to air a specific number of hours per week of educational shows.

I hope you will seize this opportunity to influence the lives and futures of our nation's children. Broadcasters have at their disposal an invaluable resource for children. Yet the record shows that without stricter regulation, this positive potential for kids will remain unfulfilled. With your vote for substantive and meaningful regulations of the CTA, our kids will have the opportunity to benefit by this vast untapped resource for education and information outside the classroom.

Sincerely,

(signature)

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IVAN GROSSHAUSER
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Sincerely,


(signature)

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LYN ROTHMUND
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Sincerely,

Charlene Mathews
(signature)

From 6-9pm, there should
be no violence. Show
things that ask questions of
viewers & instill respect and
responsibility. Show science,
etc. TV has

PLEASE PRINT:

Charlene Mathews
Name

Director of Elem. Schools
Title San Juan Unified Sch. Dist.

3738 Walnut Ave
Address

Carmichael, Ca 95608
Address

Contributed neg-
atively to children's
behavior.
Guidelines
could contribute
positively!
TV violence
de-sensitizes
kids to violence.

Each sector of society must help!

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